Nelson Mandela



Nelson Mandela was a very important person in the world. He was from South Africa where he led an anti-apartheid (say: anti-a-**part**-hite) movement. He also spent twenty-seven years in prison for fighting against the government and was the first black South African President.

Apartheid was the separation of black and white people in South Africa.

Early Life

Nelson Mandela was named Rolihlahla Mandela when he was born in Mvezo (say: m-**vay**-**zo**), South Africa in 1918. He was given the name Nelson by his teacher on his first day of school.

He did well at school and went to the University of Fort Hare, however, he was expelled because he joined a student protest. When he returned home, his family told him he would have to marry someone if he did not return to Fort Hare to finish his degree. Mandela ran away to the city of Johannesburg (say: Joe-**han**-ez-burg) where he managed to finish his degree through the University of South Africa and eventually became a lawyer.

Politics and Prison

From 1942, he was more involved with politics and by 1944, he helped start the youth section of the African National Congress (ANC), a political party in South Africa. Later, he was chosen to lead the plan to fight against apartheid.

The next years were full of fighting and arrests because of apartheid and in 1962, he was arrested again and in 1964, was given a long prison sentence. During his time in prison, the rest of the world was also trying to stop apartheid in South Africa.

Freedom and the President

In 1984, Nelson Mandela was the world's most famous prisoner and the song 'Free Nelson Mandela', which was used to tell people to let him out of prison, was a UK number one record. By 1988, things were starting to change in South Africa when black students were allowed to go to white universities. In 1990, South Africa's new President set Nelson Mandela free. The two men agreed that

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the future should be peaceful and people should work together.

In 1994, black people were allowed to vote in a government election for the first time and they voted Nelson Mandela as their first black president.

His work as president was very important and he used sport to bring people together. South Africa hosted and won the 1995 Rugby World Cup and Nelson Mandela wore the South African Springboks shirt which black people had not worn before.

Later Years

Nelson Mandela was known as a great man for the work he had done in his lifetime and was awarded the Nobel peace prize in 1993.

He gave up politics in 2004 to spend quiet time with his family as he got older. He lived with his third wife in Johannesburg where he died on the 5th December 2013.

Nelson Mandela **Questions**

1. When was Nelson Mandela born? Tick **one**.

   - ☐ 1914
   - ☐ 1923
   - ☐ 1918
   - ☐ 1944

2. Match up the boxes.

Johannesburg	Mandela's birth name.
Mvezo	The place Mandela ran away to.
Rolihlahla	Where Mandela was born

3. What is apartheid?

_____

4. What does ANC stand for?

_____

_____

5. **Nelson Mandela was the only person working against apartheid.**

   Do you agree with this statement? Use evidence from the text to support your answer

_____

_____

_____

6. What happened in 1984?

_____

7. How did things change in South Africa in the 1980s and 90s? List **three** ways.

_____

_____

_____

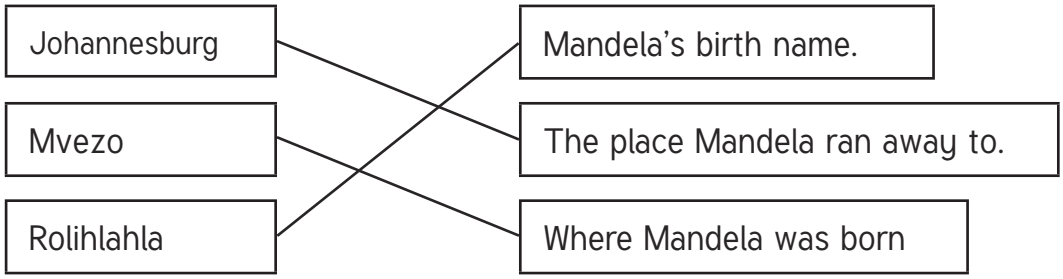
8. If you had had the chance to meet Nelson Mandela, what would you ask him and why?

Nelson Mandela **Answers**

1. When was Nelson Mandela born? Tick **one**.

   1918

2. Match up the boxes.



3. What is apartheid?

   Apartheid is where black and white people were kept separate from each other (in South Africa).

4. What does 'ANC' stand for?

   The ANC stands for the African National Congress.

5. **Nelson Mandela was the only person working against apartheid.**
   Do you agree with this statement? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.
   Pupil's own response that refers to the text, such as: I do not agree with this statement, because the text says:"... the rest of the world was also trying to stop apartheid in South Africa." Also, it states that the song 'Free Nelson Mandela' was released, which shows that people supported him and the anti-apartheid movement, and he was also released from prison by the African President at the time.

6. What happened in 1984?

   In 1984, the song 'Free Nelson Mandela' was released to raise awareness of Mandela's imprisonment and got to number one in the UK.

7. How did things change in South Africa in the 1980s and 90s? List three ways.

   Accept any of the following:

   - **Black students were allowed to attend white universities**
   - **Nelson Mandela was set free**
   - **Black people were allowed to vote**
   - **Mandela became president**
   - **Mandela wore a Springboks shirt at the Rugby world cup**

8. If you had had the chance to meet Nelson Mandela, what would you ask him and why?

   Pupil's own response.

Nelson Mandela



Nelson Mandela was a very important person in the South African anti-apartheid movement having spent twenty-seven years in prison for fighting against the government. He was also the first black South African President from 1994–1999.

Apartheid (say: a-**part**-hite) was the separation of black and white people in South Africa.

Early Life

Nelson Mandela was named Rolihlahla Mandela when he was born in Mvezo (say: m-**vay**-zo), South Africa on 18th July 1918. He was given the name Nelson by his teacher at school.

He did well at school and went to the University of Fort Hare. However, he was expelled because he joined a student protest. When he returned home, his family told him he they would arrange a marriage for him if he did not return to Fort Hare to finish his degree. Mandela ran away to the city of Johannesburg (say: Joe-**han**-ez-burg) where he managed to finish his degree through the University of South Africa and eventually became a lawyer.

Politics and Prison

From 1942, he was becoming more and more involved with politics and by 1944, he helped create the youth section of the African National Congress (ANC), a political party in South Africa. Later, in 1952, he was chosen as the National Volunteer-in-Chief of the Defiance Campaign which was a movement to fight against apartheid.

The following years were full of fighting and arrests because of trying to stop apartheid. In 1962, he was arrested again and given a life sentence in 1964. Whilst he was in prison, the rest of the world was also trying to stop apartheid in South Africa.

Freedom and Leading South Africa

In 1984, Nelson Mandela was the world's most famous prisoner and the UK number one single 'Free Nelson Mandela' became a worldwide anthem for the anti-apartheid movement – you might even like to listen to the song and read the lyrics. By 1988, things were starting to change as black students were let

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into white universities and in 1990, South Africa's new president, FW de Klerk, set Nelson Mandela free. The two men agreed that the future should be peaceful and people should work together.

In 1994, black people were allowed to vote in a government election for the first time and they voted Nelson Mandela, leader of the ANC, as their first black president.

His work as president was groundbreaking and he used sport to bring people together. South Africa hosted and won the 1995 Rugby World Cup and Nelson Mandela wore the South African Springboks shirt. The Springboks, up until then, had been an all-white team and this went a long way to uniting South Africa.

Later Years

Nelson Mandela was revered as a great man and world-class statesman for the work he had done in his lifetime and was awarded the Nobel peace prize in 1993.

He gave up politics in 2004 to spend quiet time with family. He lived with his third wife in Johannesburg where he died on the 5th December 2013.

Nelson Mandela **Questions**

1. How long was Mandela imprisoned for? Tick **one**.

   ☐ 5 years

   ☐ 12 years

   ☐ 18 years

   ☐ 27 years

2. **Find** and **copy** a word that means **the separation of black and white people in South Africa**.

   _____

3. Tick the boxes to say whether the statements below are **true** or **false**.

Sentence	**True**	**False**
In 1942, he helped create the ANC (African National Congress).		
In 1984, the song 'Free Nelson Mandela' was released and became a worldwide anthem.		
In 1988 black students were allowed to attend white universities.		
In 1990, Mandela escaped from prison.		

4. In the **Politics and Prison** paragraph, Nelson Mandela was seen as a criminal and trouble maker involved with fighting and protests. How is he seen differently in the **Freedom and Leading South Africa** paragraph?

   _____

   _____

   _____

5. How many years was it from the release of the song 'Free Nelson Mandela' to when he was actually released?

   _____

6. Why do you think FW de Klerk (the South African President) set Nelson Mandela free in 1990?

   _____

   _____

   _____

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7. Why do you think he wore the Springboks shirt during the rugby World Cup in 1995 when the team up until then had been all-white?

8. Why has the author written '(say: a-part-hite)' after the word apartheid

9. If you had had the chance to meet Nelson Mandela, what would you ask him and why?

Nelson Mandela **Answers**

1. How long was Mandela imprisoned for? Tick **one**.

   27 years

2. **Find** and **copy** a word that means **the separation of black and white people in South Africa**.

   Apartheid

3. Tick the boxes to say whether the statements below are **true** or **false**.

Sentence	True	False
In 1942, he helped create the ANC (African National Congress).		✓
In 1984, the song 'Free Nelson Mandela' was released and became a worldwide anthem.	✓	
In 1988 black students were allowed to attend white universities.	✓	
In 1990, Mandela escaped from prison.		✓

4. In the **Politics and Prison** paragraph, Nelson Mandela was seen as a criminal and trouble maker involved with fighting and protests. How is he seen differently in the **Freedom and Leading South Africa** paragraph?

   Pupil's own response, that refers to the text, such as: In the Freedom and Leading South Africa paragraph, he is seen as a leader and peace maker worldwide because he became president and helped make things better between white and black people and South Africa.

5. How many years was it from the release of the song 'Free Nelson Mandela' to when he was actually released?

   It was six years from when 'Free Nelson Mandela' was released in 1984 to when he was actually released in 1990.

6. Why do you think FW de Klerk (the South African President) set Nelson Mandela free in 1990?

   Pupil's own response, such as: I think the South African president set Nelson Mandela free because he knew it was wrong that he had been imprisoned for fighting for the rights of black people. Things had been changing in South Africa and black people were getting more rights, so I think more people believed Mandela should be set free.

7. Why do you think he wore the Springboks shirt during the rugby World Cup in 1995 when the team up until then had been all-white?

   Pupil's own response, such as: I think he wore the Springboks shirt to show that that team was now black and white and also to show South Africa and the world that South Africa was changing and working together. (He was leading by example.)

8. Why has the author written '(say: a-**part**-hite)' after the word apartheid?

   The author has written '(say: a-part-hite)' after the word apartheid to show you how to say the word because it is a tricky word to read.

9. If you had had the chance to meet Nelson Mandela, what would you ask him and why?

   Pupil's own response.

Nelson Mandela



Nelson Mandela was a significant figure in the South African anti-apartheid movement, spending twenty-seven years in prison for fighting and protesting against the government. He was also the first black South African President from 1994–1999.

Apartheid (pronounced: a-**part**-hite) was the segregation of black and white people in South Africa.

Early Life

Nelson Mandela was born Rolihlahla Mandela in Mvezo (pronounced: m-**vay**-zo), South Africa on 18th July 1918. He was given the name Nelson by his teacher as it was traditional for all children to be given a Christian name at school.

He achieved well at school and went on to university but he was expelled for joining a student protest, already showing signs of becoming an activist. When he returned home, his family told him he they would arrange a marriage for him if he did not return to Fort Hare to finish his degree. Mandela ran away to the city of Johannesburg (pronounced: Joe-**han**-ez-burg) where he managed to finish his degree through the University of South Africa and eventually became a lawyer.

Politics and Prison

From 1942, he was becoming more and more politically active and by 1944, he was instrumental in creating the youth section of the African National Congress (ANC); a left-wing, democratic political party in South Africa. Later, in 1952, he was chosen as the National Volunteer-in-Chief of the Defiance Campaign, which was a movement to fight against apartheid.

Consequently, the following years were awash with protest, fighting and arrests because of apartheid and in 1962, he was arrested again and given a life sentence in 1964. Whilst he was in prison, the rest of the world was also involved in trying to stop apartheid in South Africa. Many sports teams and performers boycotted the country during this time.

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Freedom and Leading South Africa

In 1984, Nelson Mandela was the world's most famous prisoner and the UK number one single 'Free Nelson Mandela' became a worldwide anthem for anti-apartheid – you might even like to listen to the song and read the lyrics. Thankfully, by 1988, things in South Africa were starting to change as black students were allowed to attend white universities and in 1990, South Africa's new president, FW de Klerk, set Nelson Mandela free. The two men agreed that the future should be peaceful and people should work together.

In 1994, black people were, for the first time, allowed to vote in a government election and they voted Nelson Mandela, leader of the ANC as their first black president.

His work as president was groundbreaking and he used sport to bring people together. South Africa hosted and won the 1995 Rugby World Cup and Nelson Mandela wore the South African Springboks shirt. Up until then, the Springboks had been an all-white team and this went a long way to uniting South Africa.

Later Years

Nelson Mandela was revered as a great man and world-class statesman for the work he had done in his lifetime and was awarded the Nobel peace prize in 1993.

He gave up politics in 2004 to spend his last years with family. He lived with his third wife in Johannesburg where he died on the 5th December 2013.

Nelson Mandela **Questions**

1. What is the anti-apartheid movement?

2. Tick the boxes to say whether the statements below are **true** or **false**.

Sentence	**True**	**False**
In 1952, he was chosen as the National Volunteer-in-Chief of the Defiance Campaign.		
In 1984, the song 'Free Nelson Mandela' was released and became a worldwide anthem for anti-apartheid.		
In 1984, black students were allowed to attend white universities.		
In 1990, Mandela escaped from prison.		

3. Why has the author put some guidance of how to say the word **apartheid**?

4. In the **Politics and Prison** section, the author uses the word boycotted. What does it mean?

5. What was the cause of the boycotting of South Africa by sports teams and entertainers?

6. Compare how Nelson Mandela was seen in the **Politics and Prison** paragraph with how he was seen in the **Freedom and Leading South Africa** paragraph. How is it different?

7. How long was Mandela imprisoned for? Tick **one**.

- ☐ 5 years
- ☐ 12 years
- ☐ 18 years
- ☐ 27 years

8. Why do you think Mandela wore the Springboks shirt during the rugby World Cup in 1995 when the team up until then had been all-white?

_____

_____

_____

9. Why do you think Mandela won the Nobel peace prize? Use examples you have read in the text.

_____

_____

_____

10. If you had had the chance of meeting Nelson Mandela, what would you ask him and why?

_____

_____

_____

Nelson Mandela **Answers**

1. What is the anti-apartheid movement?

   The anti-apartheid movement is the fight against the government to let black and white people mix and have the same rights as each other.

2. Tick the boxes to say whether the statements below are true or false.

Sentence	True	False
In 1952, he was chosen as the National Volunteer-in-Chief of the Defiance Campaign.	✓	
In 1984, the song 'Free Nelson Mandela' was released and became a worldwide anthem for anti-apartheid.	✓	
In 1984, black students were allowed to attend white universities.		✓
In 1990, Mandela escaped from prison.		✓

3. Why has the author put some guidance of how to say the word **apartheid**?

   The author has included how to say the word apartheid because it is not a common word that we might have seen before and the spelling makes it difficult to work out easily how to say it.

4. In the **Politics and Prison** section, the author uses the word **boycotted**. What does it mean

   The word 'boycotted' means refusing to take part in something.

5. What was the cause of the boycotting of South Africa by sports teams and entertainers?

   The UK and the rest of the world did not agree with apartheid and the way the South African government was treating black people so they did not want to be involved with a country that treated people that way. Also, not going there might make the government notice and think again.

6. Compare how Nelson Mandela was seen in the **Politics and Prison** paragraph with how he was seen in the **Freedom and Leading South Africa** paragraph. How is it different?

   In the Politics and Prison paragraph, Mandela was seen as a criminal and trouble maker as he kept being arrested for protesting and fighting, ending up in prison. In the Freedom and Leading South Africa paragraph, he was seen as a peace maker worldwide because he became president and helped make things better between white and black people and South Africa.

7. How long was Mandela imprisoned for? Tick **one**.

   27 years

8. Why do you think Mandela wore the Springboks shirt during the rugby World Cup in 1995 when the team up until then had been all-white?

   Pupil's own response, such as: I think he wore the Springboks shirt to show that that team was now black and white and also to show South Africa and the world that South Africa was changing and working together. (He was leading by example.)

Nelson Mandela **Answers**

9. Why do you think Mandela won the Nobel peace prize? Use examples you have read in the text.

   I think that he won the Nobel Peace Prize for (1) his part in stopping apartheid and becoming the (2) first black president of South Africa. He also brought people together for a future after apartheid (3) using sport and the rugby world cup.

10. If you had had the chance of meeting Nelson Mandela, what would you ask him and why?

    Pupil's own response.

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